



# THE PANDAVA PRINCES

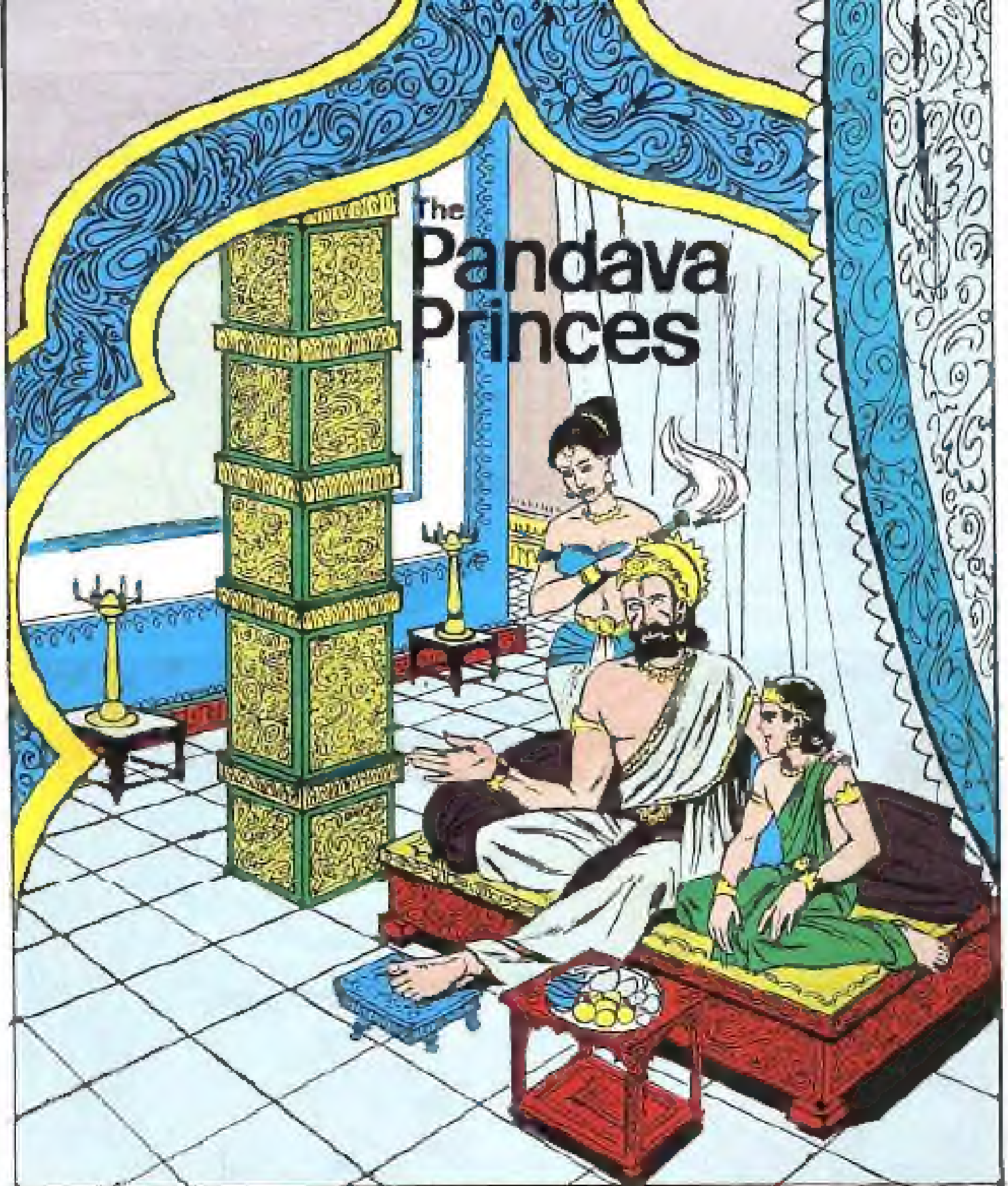
PANDU'S FIVE BRAVE SONS

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# The Pandava Princes



THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO, INDIA WAS DIVIDED INTO MANY SOVEREIGN STATES. ONE OF THEM WAS HASTINAPURA, RULED BY THE BLIND KING DHRITARASHTRA. HE HAD A HUNDRED SONS, WHO WERE CALLED THE KAURAVAS. THE ELDEST WAS DURYODHANA.

DHRITARASHTRA'S BROTHER PANDU, HAD RULED THE KINGDOM EARLIER, BUT HE HAD RETIRED TO THE FOREST, BECAUSE OF CONTINUED ILLNESS. PANDU HAD TWO WIVES- KUNTI AND MADRI. THERE IN COURSE OF TIME, THREE SONS WERE BORN TO KUNTI- YUDHISHTHIRA, BHEEMA AND ARJUNA. MADRI HAD TWO SONS- NAKULA AND SAHADEVA. TOGETHER THEY WERE CALLED THE PANDAVAS.

THE HARD JUNGLE LIFE MADE THEM STURDY AND FEARLESS.

THE GREAT SAGES OF THE JUNGLE TAUGHT THE PANDAVAS TO READ AND WRITE.





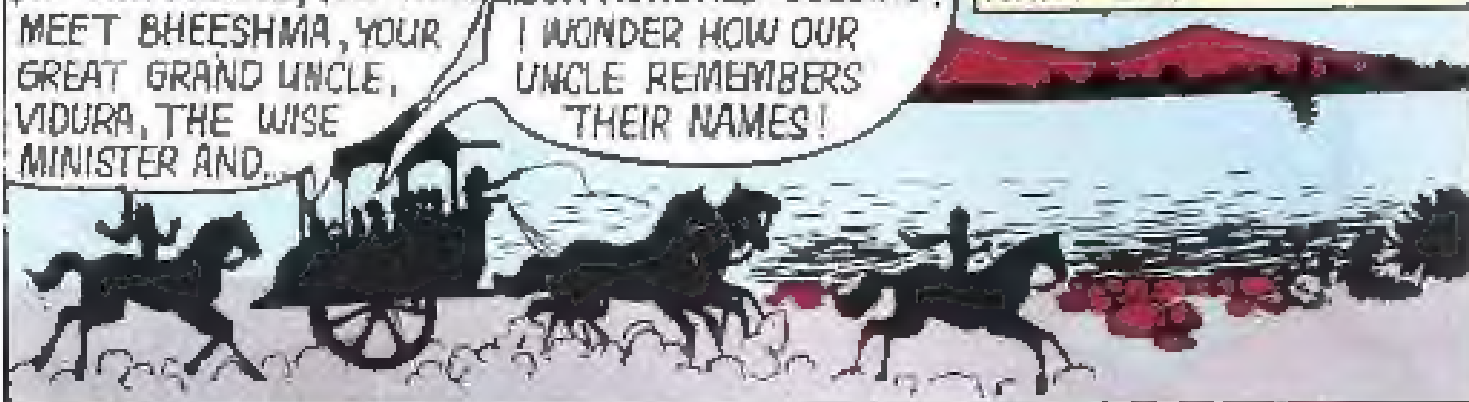
WHEN PANDU DIED, MADRI BURNT HERSELF ON THE PYRE. SAGE VIVASA CAME TO CONSOLE KUNTI.



AT THE PALACE, YOU WILL MEET BHEESHMA, YOUR GREAT GRAND UNCLE, VIDURA, THE WISE MINISTER AND...

OUR HUNDRED COUSINS! I WONDER HOW OUR UNCLE REMEMBERS THEIR NAMES!

NEXT DAY—



ON THEIR WAY—

COME, MY  
SONS.

AT THE PALACE, THE BLIND KING DHARITARASHTRA  
WELCOMED THEM WITH A SHOW OF LOVE.

SONS INDEED! AND  
WHO ARE WE?

BHISHIMA, THEIR GREAT GRAND UNCLE,  
LOVED THEM AS MUCH AS HE DID THE  
KAURAVAS.

DUHSHASANA! DURYODHANA!  
LIVE TOGETHER AS  
BROTHERS WITH THE  
PANDAVAS.

BE WORTHY SONS  
OF THE GREAT  
PANDU.

VIDURA TOO.  
BLESSED THEM.

AS THE DAYS PASSED,  
DURYODHANA'S HATRED OF  
THE PANDAVAS GREW.

THIS YUDHISHTHIRA MAY ONE DAY BECOME THE  
CROWN PRINCE.

AN HONOUR WHICH  
IS YOURS BY RIGHT,  
DURYODHANA!

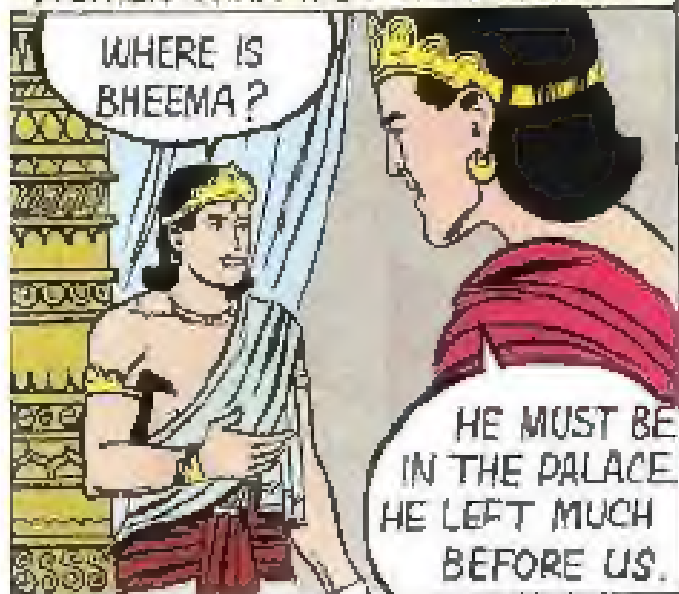
THE KAURAVAS ENVIED THE FIVE PRINCES.



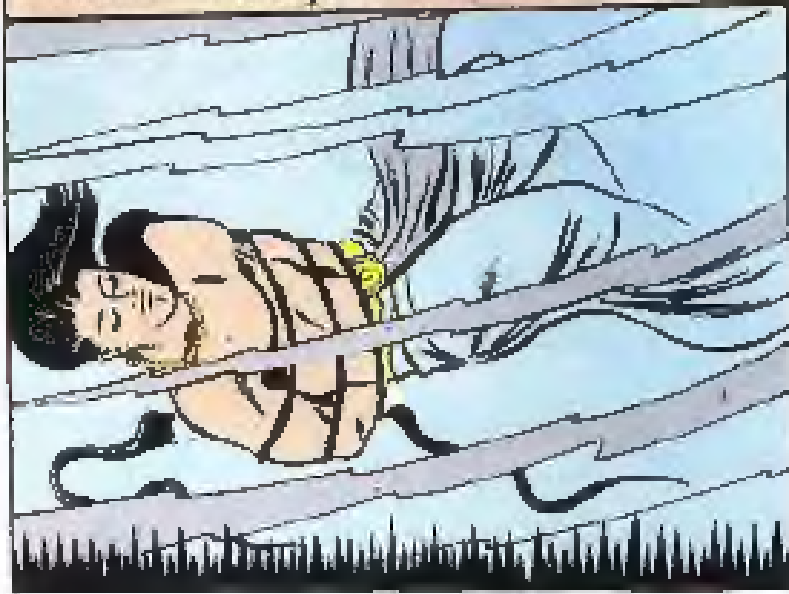




NEAR THE PALACE GATES,  
YUDHISHTHIRA MET DURYODHANA.



IN THE RIVER, BHEEMA ESCAPED  
THE IRON SPIKES, BUT THE SNAKES BIT HIM.



THE SNAKE POISON ACTED AGAINST  
THE POISONED FOOD WHICH HE HAD  
EATEN!



HE TWITCHED HIS MUSCLES TILL THE  
BOARDS BURST.



SOON HE CAME OUT OF THE WATER AND REACHED THE PALACE.

HELLO,  
DURYODHANA!  
THE SNAKES  
SEND YOU  
THEIR  
LOVE.



HOW DID HE  
SURVIVE?







A POORLY-CLAD BRAHMAN APPROACHED THEM

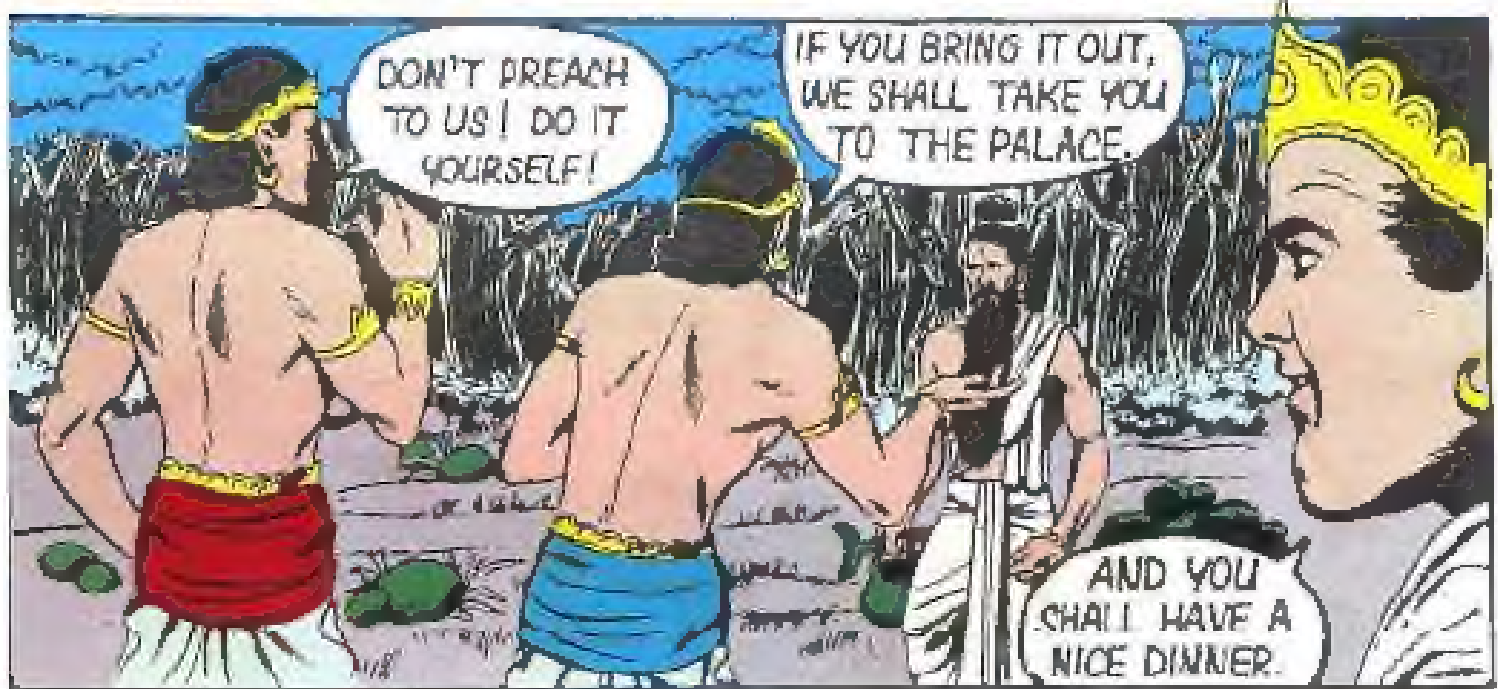
KSHATRIYA PRINCES! CAN'T YOU TAKE A BALL OUT OF A WELL?



DON'T PREACH TO US! DO IT YOURSELF!

IF YOU BRING IT OUT, WE SHALL TAKE YOU TO THE PALACE.

AND YOU SHALL HAVE A NICE DINNER.



THE BRAHMAN UPROOTED A BLADE OF GRASS.

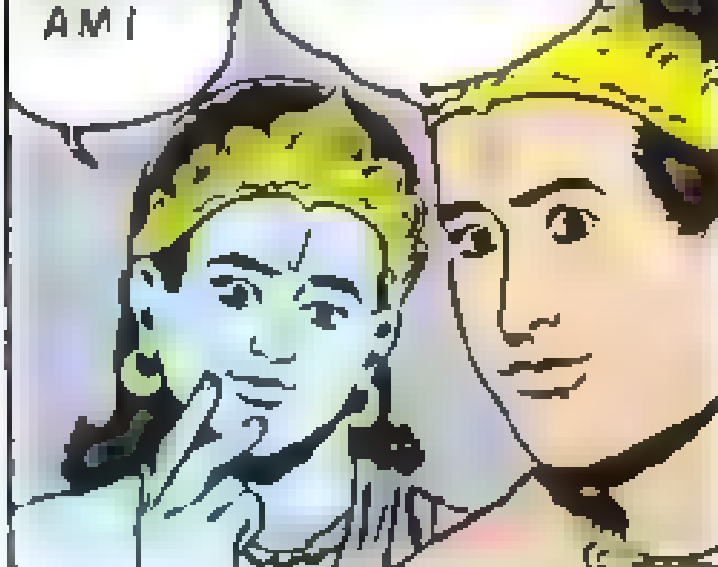


AND STRAIGHTENING IT, HE HURLED IT INTO THE WELL WITH TREMENDOUS FORCE.



WHAT A  
MARVELLOUS  
ACT!

IT HAS STUCK  
INTO THE BALL



THE BOWSMAN DID THE SAME THING  
WITH ANOTHER BALL. THEN ANOTHER  
AND ANOTHER. IT WAS A LONG TIME.

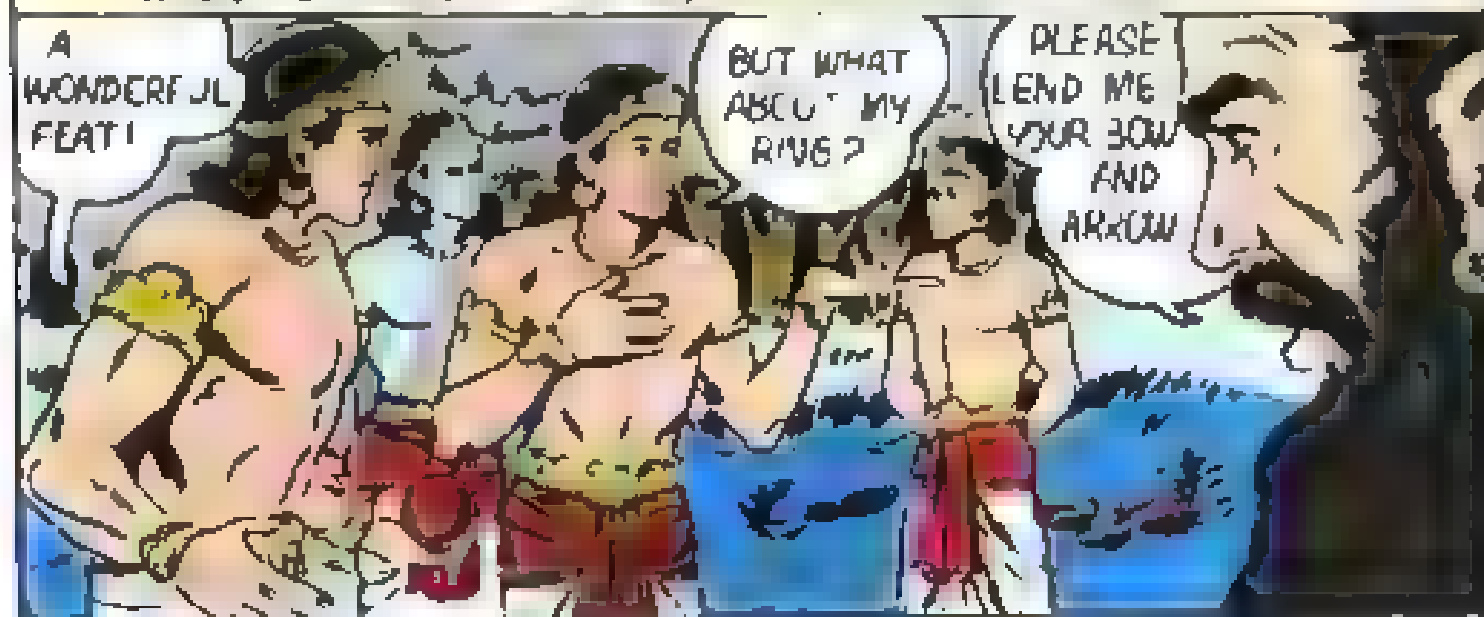


WHEN HE PULLED THE CHAIR, THE BALL CAME OUT WITH IT

A  
WONDERFUL  
FEAT!

BUT WHAT  
ABOUT MY  
RINGS?

PLEASE  
LEND ME  
YOUR BOW  
AND  
ARROW



THE BOWSMAN SENT AN ARROW STRAIGHT INTO THE WELL. IT BOUNCED  
BACK AND FORTH WITH IT. THE FINEST RING



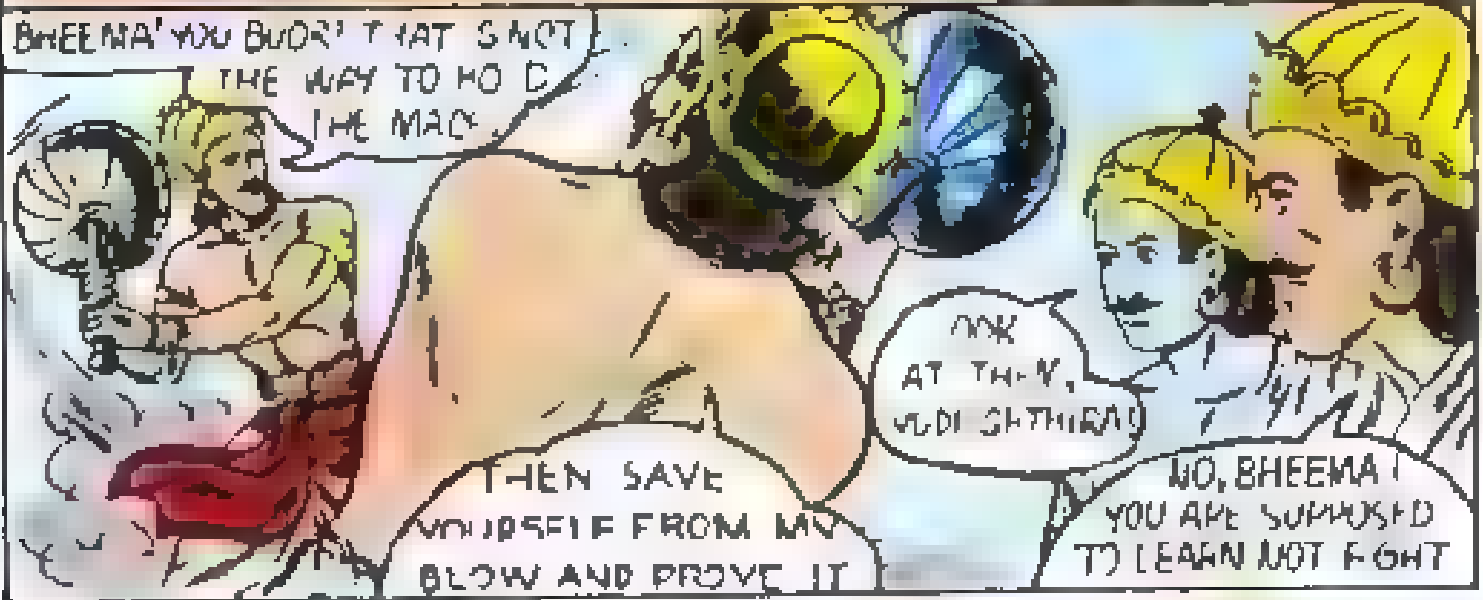
AN  
AMAZING FEAT!  
WILL YOU PLEASE  
COME WITH US TO  
THE PALACE?



AT THE COURT, BHEESHMA RECOGNISED H.M. KING DHARTARASHTRA REJECTED HIM WITH A FROWNING



THE PRINCES LEARNED THE ARTS OF WAR FROM DRONACHARYA



ONE DAY, DRONA HELD A CONTEST TO WHICH THE KING WAS INVITED. A BIG CROWD CAME TO WITNESS THE FEATS



DURYODHANA INSTANTLY TOOK A  
LIKING FOR KARNA BY BEFRIENDING  
HIM. HE WANTED TO HUMILIATE  
ARJUNA

FRIEND  
KARNA!  
PROMISE  
YOU THE  
KINGDOM  
OF ANSA.



AFTER OBTAINING THE PERMISSION  
OF HIS DURIYAPAKSHIYA, KARNA  
WAS CROWNED THERE AND THEN  
HOW CAN I EVER  
REPAY YOUR  
KINDNESS,  
DURYODHANA!



THE QUICKNESS OF DURYODHANA'S ACTION ASTONISHED THE WHOLE GATHERING.



THAT DOES NOT  
SOLVE THE PROBLEM  
HE CANNOT HIDE  
HIS TRUE BIRTH.

COME, KARNA!  
DON'T LET  
ARJUNA'S REMARK  
BOTTER YOU.

KRATU, WHO WITNESSED ALL THIS,  
WAS ALSO SAD

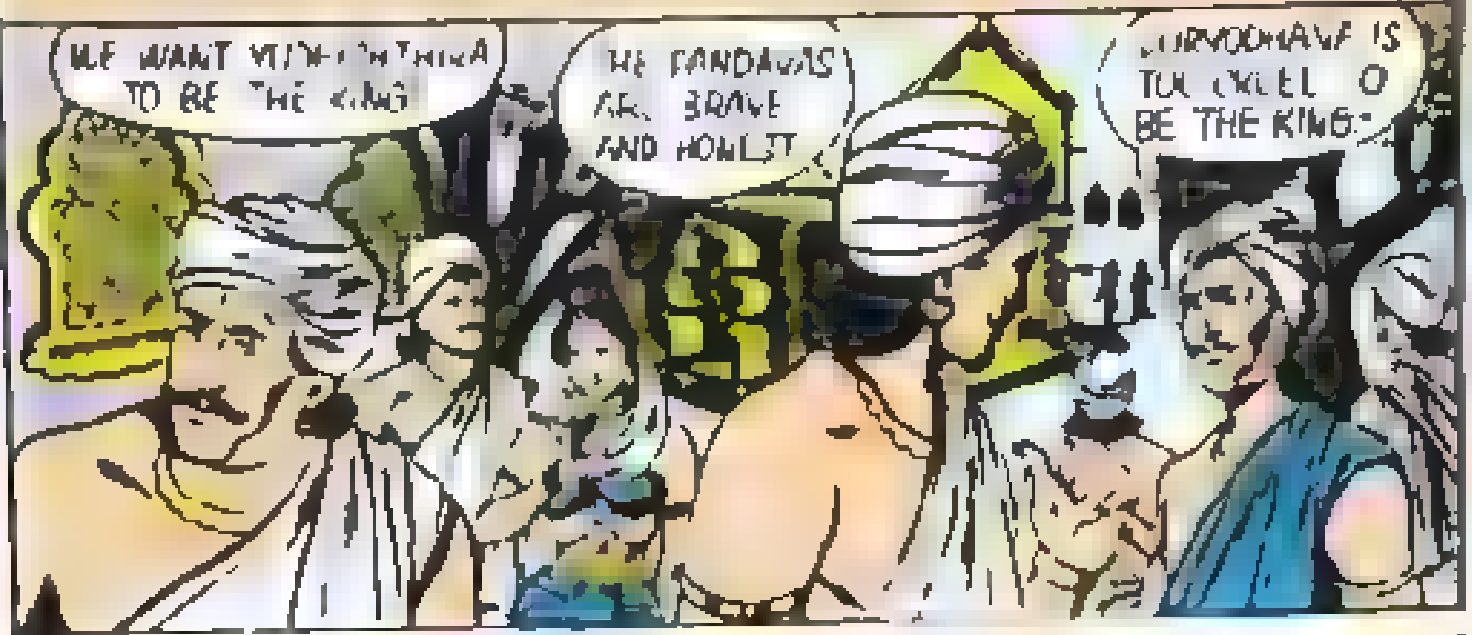
HE IS MY SON! BUT  
WHEN HE WAS BORN  
I WAS SO YOUNG...



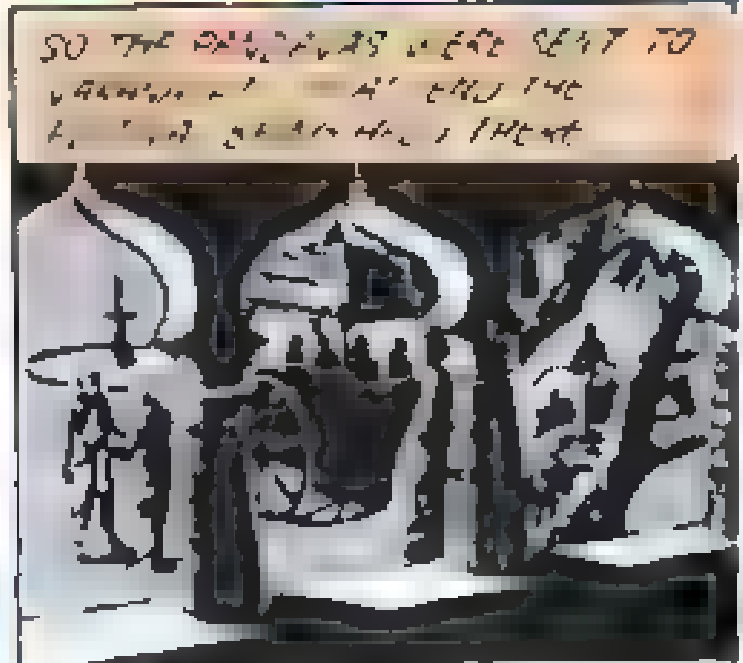
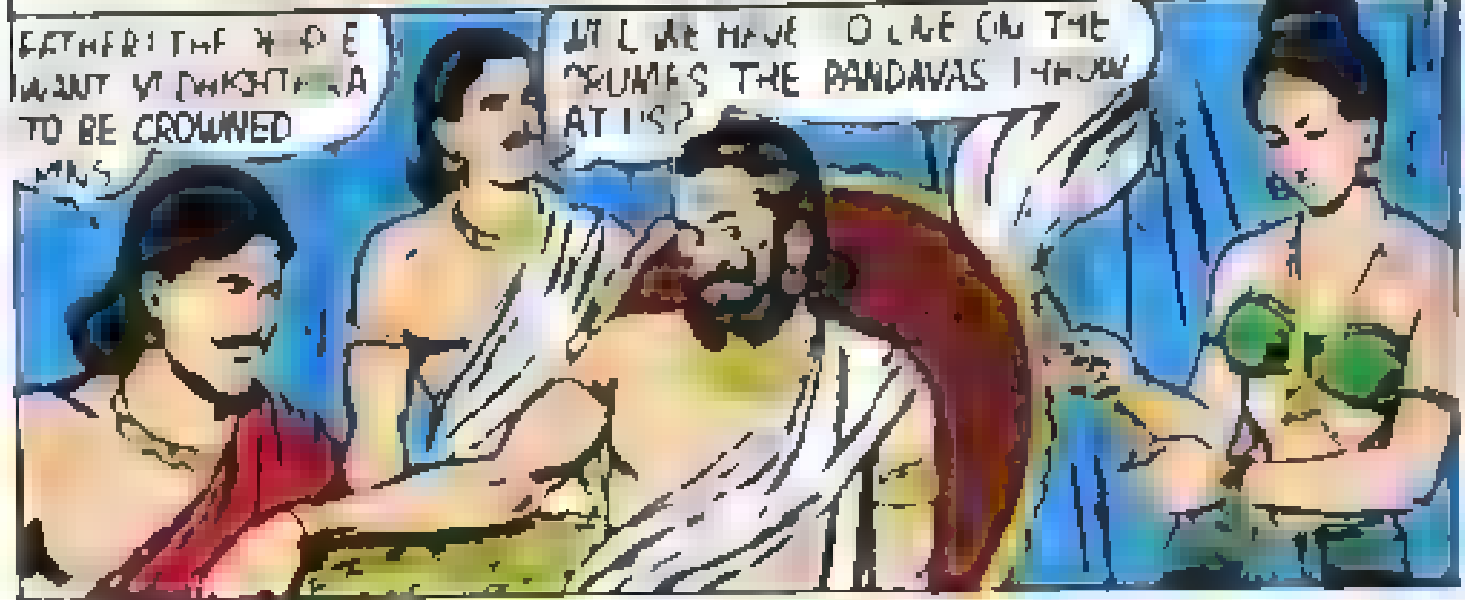
"CAST HIM  
AWAY. THIS  
CHARIOTEER MUST  
HAVE FOUND HIM"



THE PANDAVA PRINCES WERE (NOT) ALL OVER THE COUNTRY



THIS TALK REACHED THE EARS OF DURYODHANA &





DURYODHANA WHISPERED SOMETHING  
IN THE EARS OF PUROCHANA,  
A CLEVER BUT SLY ARCHITECT



VIJAYA WARNED YUDHISHTHIRA  
TO BE CAREFUL



WELCOME TO  
THE PANDAVA  
PRINCES



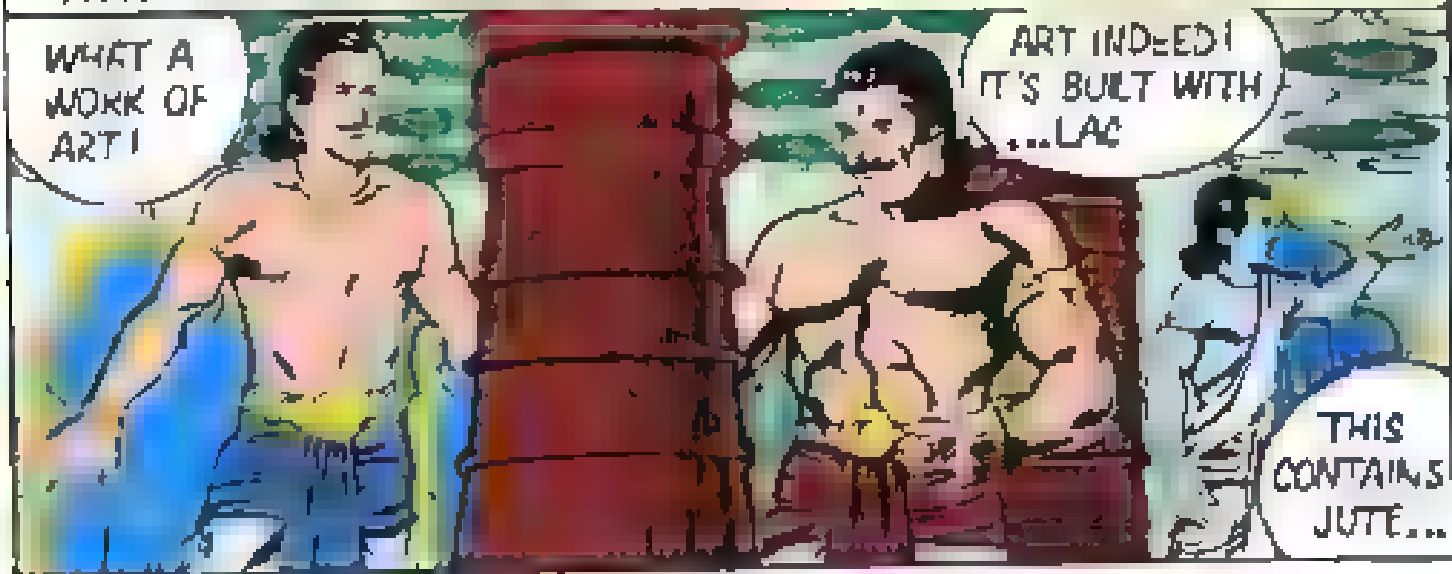
AT VARANAVATI

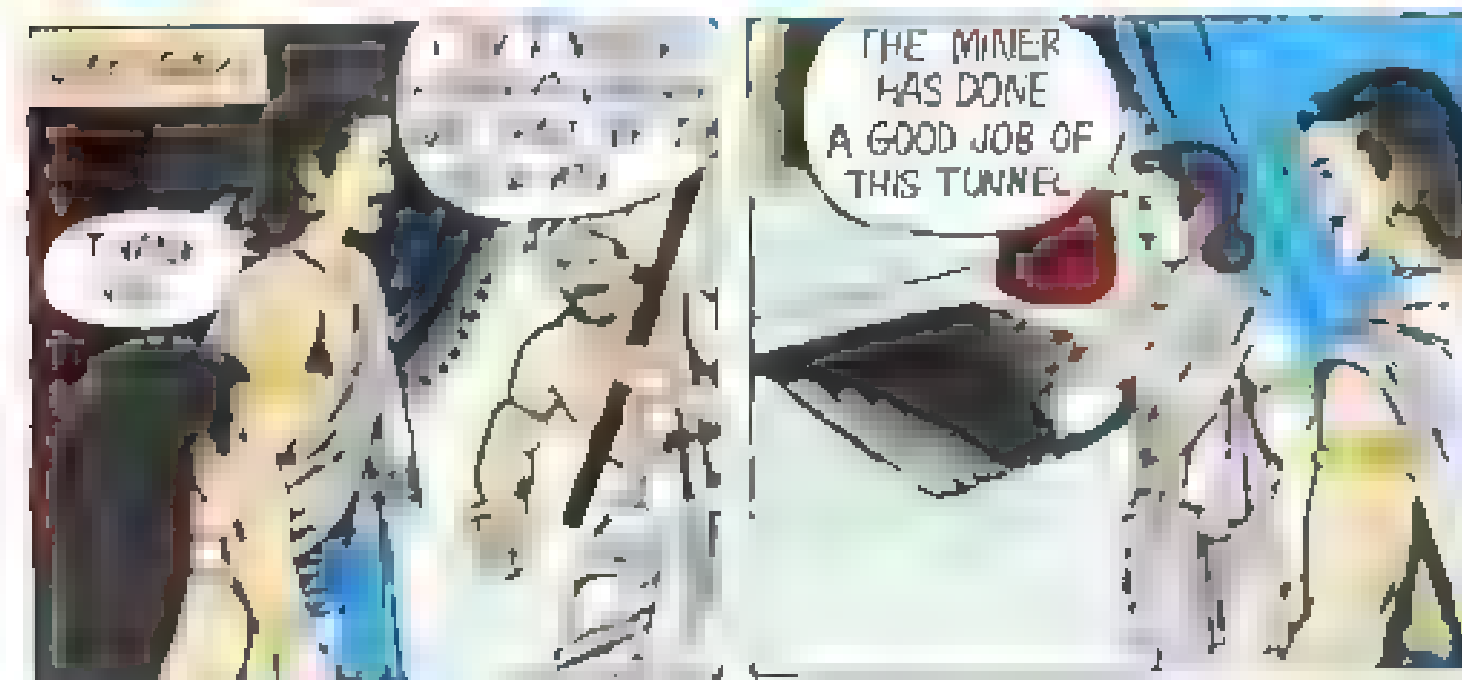
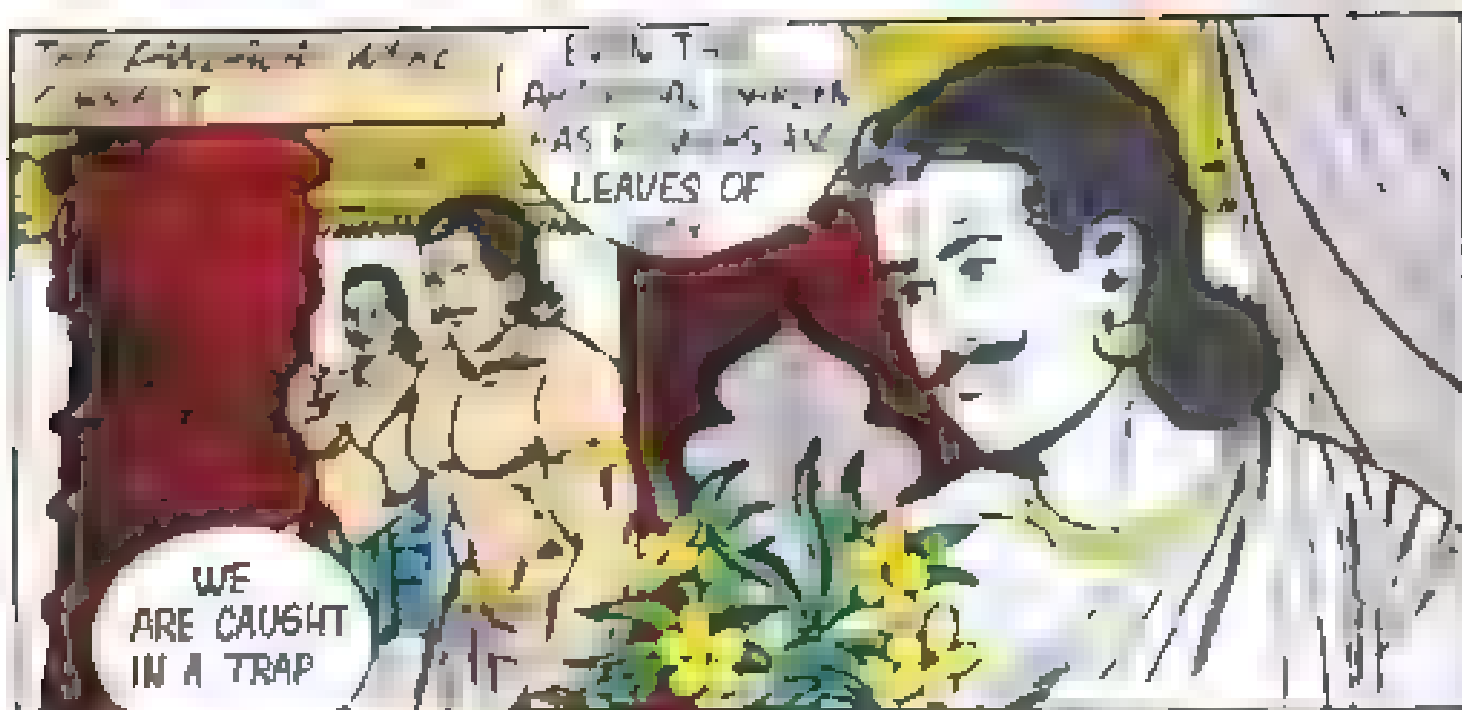
WHEN PUROCHANA FINISHED BUILDING A GRAND PALACE FOR THE  
PANDAVAS THEY MOVED INTO IT

WHAT A  
WORK OF  
ART!

ART INDEED!  
IT'S BUILT WITH  
...LAC

THIS  
CONTAINS  
JUTE...







AT LAST

WE COULDN'T WAIT FOR  
FURIOCHANA TO SET FIRE  
TO IT

LET US GO  
TO THE  
NINE.  
QUICKLY



THERE THAT'S THE  
EXIT. WE SHALL SOON  
BE SAFE IN THE  
FOREST!

IN A MATTER OF MINUTES, THE WHOLE PARTY WAS REDUCED TO ASHES  
D. KIRKUNA WAS BURIED AT THE END OF THE TRAIL WHICH HE HAD JUST HAD SET



AAAI A  
HALL

HE DO IT  
DAN, AS! THEY  
MUST ALL HAVE  
BEEN BURNED!

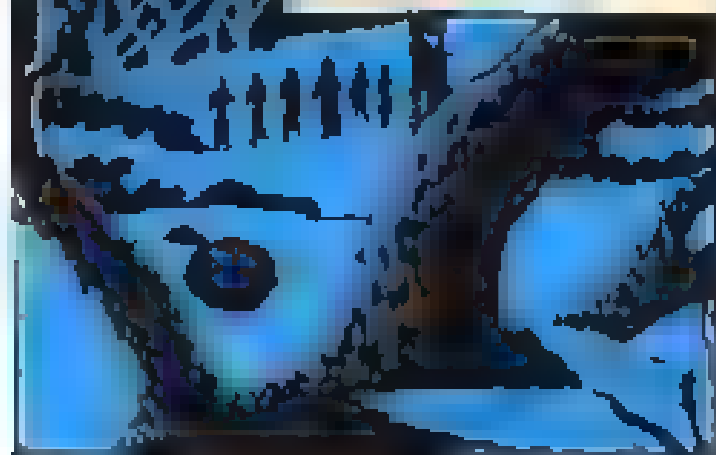
WAS IT  
REALLY AN  
ACCIDENT?



WHEN THE ARMY REACHED THE JUNGLE, DRAUPADI AND KUNTI WERE  
 ALONE IN THE JUNGLE AT THE TIME OF THE DEATH



MEANWHILE THE PANDAVAS WERE MUCH  
 ALIVE, TRILOK THROUGH THE JUNGLE  
 WHEN KUNTI COULD WALK NO LONGER  
 KUNTI CARRIED HER ON HIS SHOULDERS



AFTER CROSSING THE RIVER, THEY  
ENTERED A DEEP FOREST.



THEY LAY DOWN TO REST. BHARMA  
ALONE STAYED AWAKE



FOR MANY DAYS THEY WALKED UP AND DOWN THE HILLS THEY TRAVELED  
AT LAST IT SEEMED THAT THEY WERE NEAR SOME HUMAN HABITATION



BUT THE KAKSHASAS WERE SCARED OF THE FEARFUL ONES FACING THEM  
WITH AN UNCLEAN FIRE



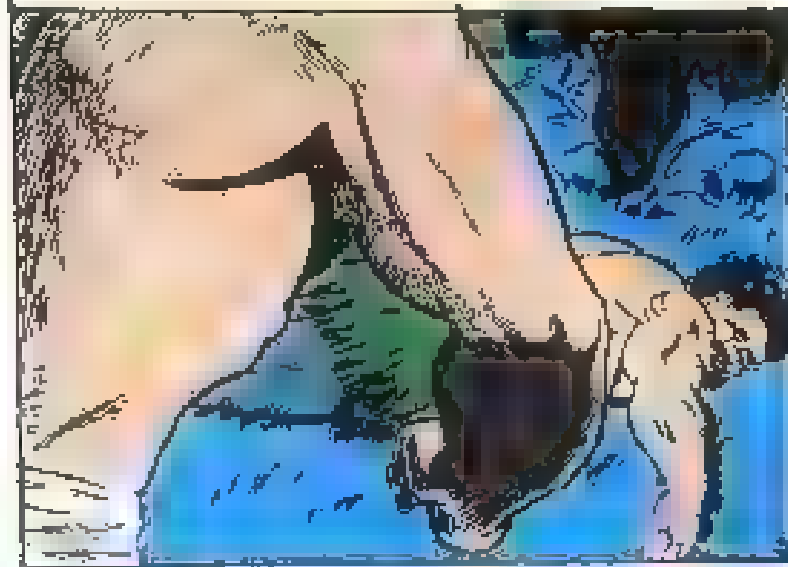
HIDAMBASURA THE RAKSHASA YIEF, STEPPED FORWARD AND TRIED TO SNATCH THE TREE FROM BHEEMA'S HAND



A FIERCE DUEL FOLLOWED.



.. IN WHICH HIDIMBASURA WAS KILLED



SOON

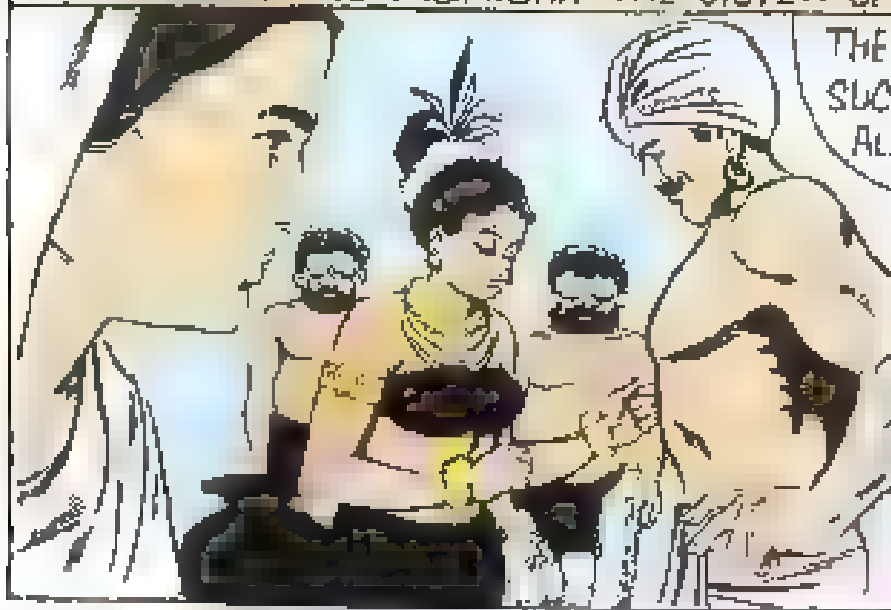


THEY WANT  
YOU TO GO WITH  
THEM AND BE THEIR  
KING





THE PANDAVAS ACCOMPANIED THEM TO THEIR VILLAGE AND THERE BHEEMA MARRIED HIDIMBAA THE SISTER OF HIDIMBA.

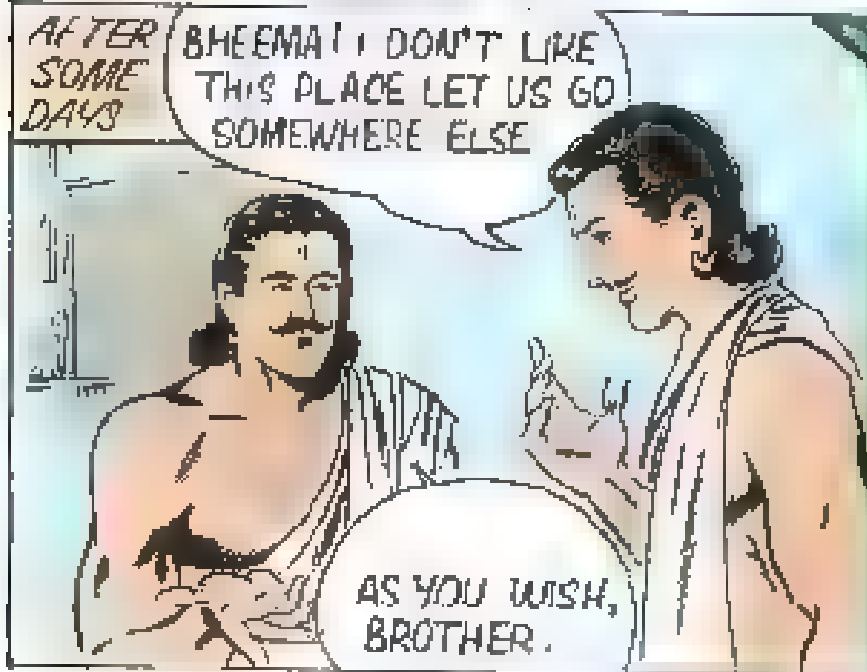


THESE RAKSHASAS ARE NOT SUCH A BAD LOT AFTER ALL, YUDHISHTHIRA



AFTER SOME DAYS

BHEEMA! I DON'T LIKE THIS PLACE LET US GO SOMEWHERE ELSE



AS YOU WISH, BROTHER.



WHAT IS THE NAME OF THIS TOWN, GOOD MAN?

EKACHAKRAPURA AND YOU ARE WELCOME GOOD BRAHMAN!

GOOD! HE THINKS WE ARE BRAHMAN.

AFTER A LONG JOURNEY-

IN KACHAKRAPURA THE PANDAVAS LIVED IN THE HOUSE OF A POOR BRAHMAN. ONE DAY

WHAT IS THE MATTER GOOD BRAHMAN?

THIS LITTLE DAUGHTER OF OURS WILL SOON BE EATEN BY BAKASURA, WHO LIVES IN A CAVE OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE.



HE HAS EXTORTED TERMS UNDER WHICH PEOPLE HAVE TO SEND HIM A PART LOAD OF FOOD EVERY DAY. HE EATS THE DRIVERS AND BULLICKS ALSO, ALWAYS WITH THE F...



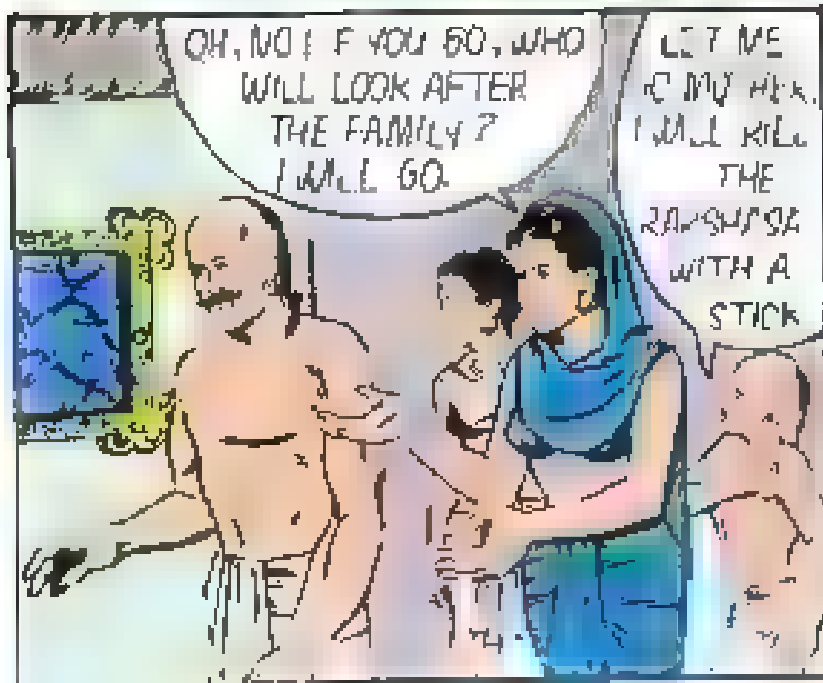
I WOULD RATHER GO MYSELF THAN SACRIFICE THIS INNOCENT GIRL.



OH, NO! IF YOU GO, WHO WILL LOOK AFTER THE FAMILY? I WILL GO.

LET ME GO MYSELF. I WILL KILL THE RAKSHASA WITH A STICK.

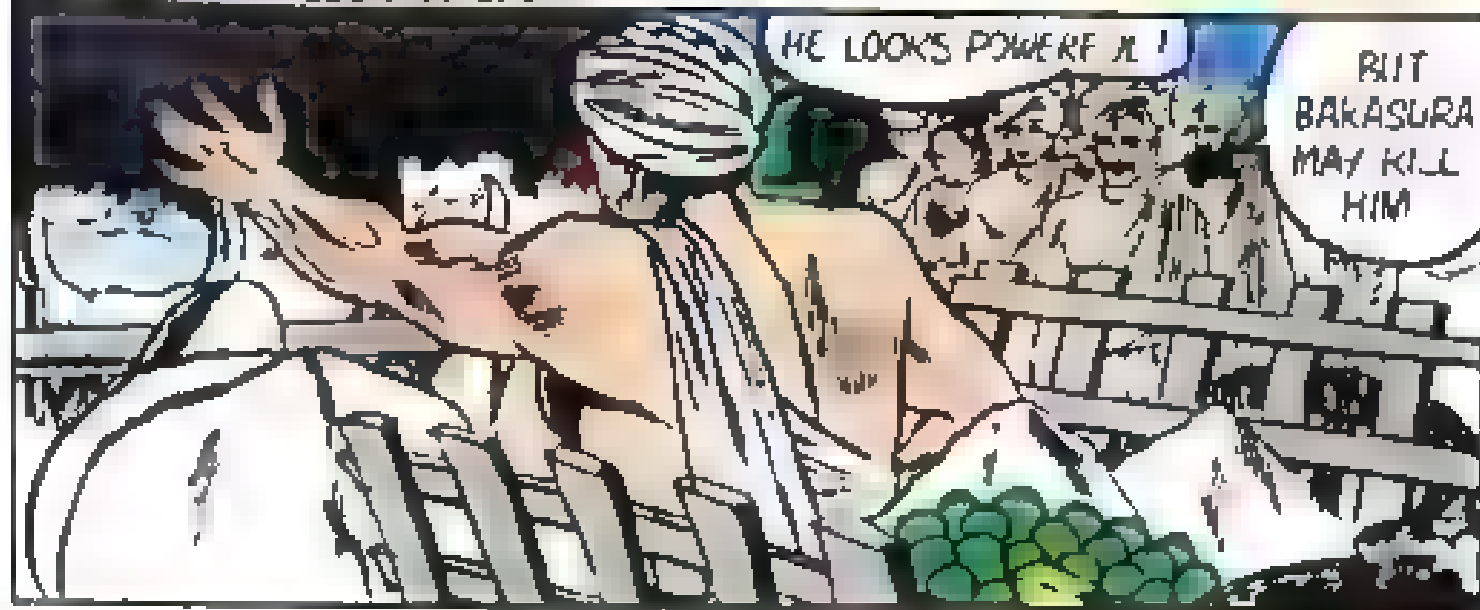
YOU MUST DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, SON.



LATER-

AS YOU WISH, MOTHER.

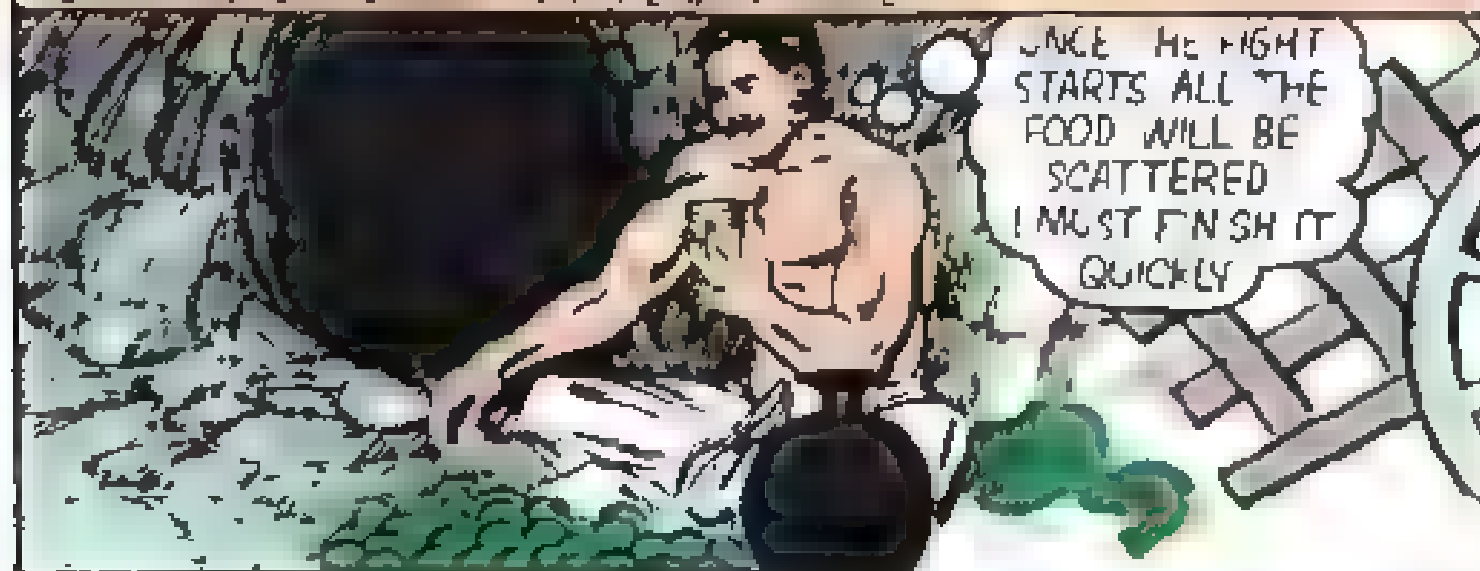
BHEEMA DROVE THE CART OF FOOD TO THE BORDER OF THE TOWN. PEOPLE FLOCKED TO SEE HIM OFF.



HE LOOKS POWERFUL!

BUT  
BAKASURA  
MAY KILL  
HIM

WHEN BHEEMA REACHED THE MOUTH OF THE CAVE HE SKINNED THE OXEN AND SAT DOWN TO A HEARTY MEAL.

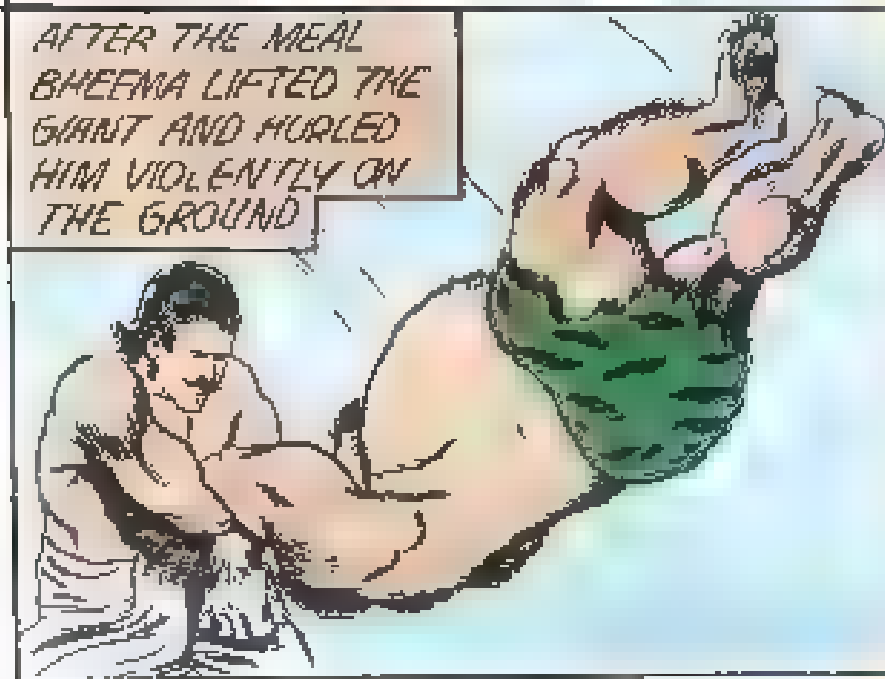
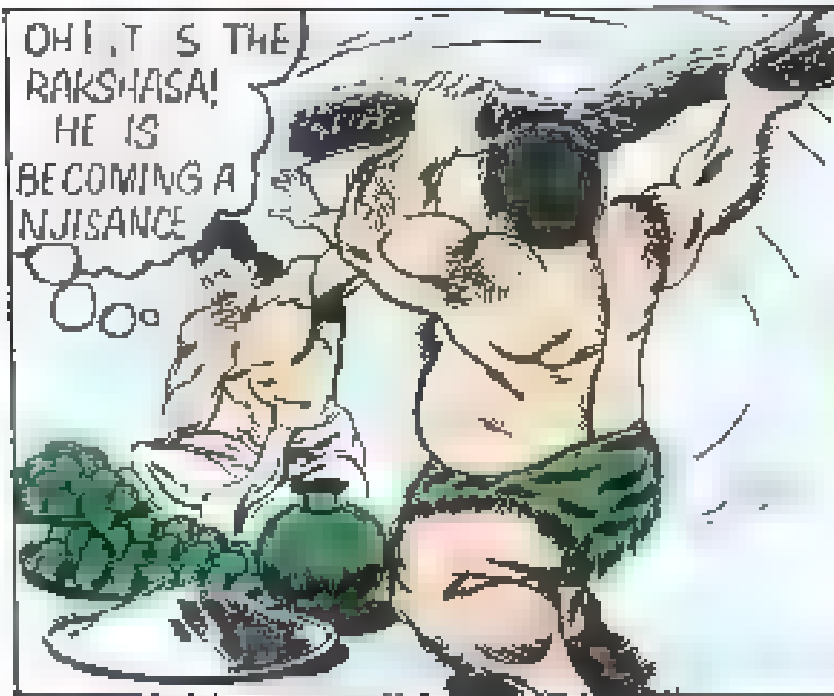


ONCE THE FIGHT  
STARTS ALL THE  
FOOD WILL BE  
SCATTERED  
I MUST FINISH IT  
QUICKLY

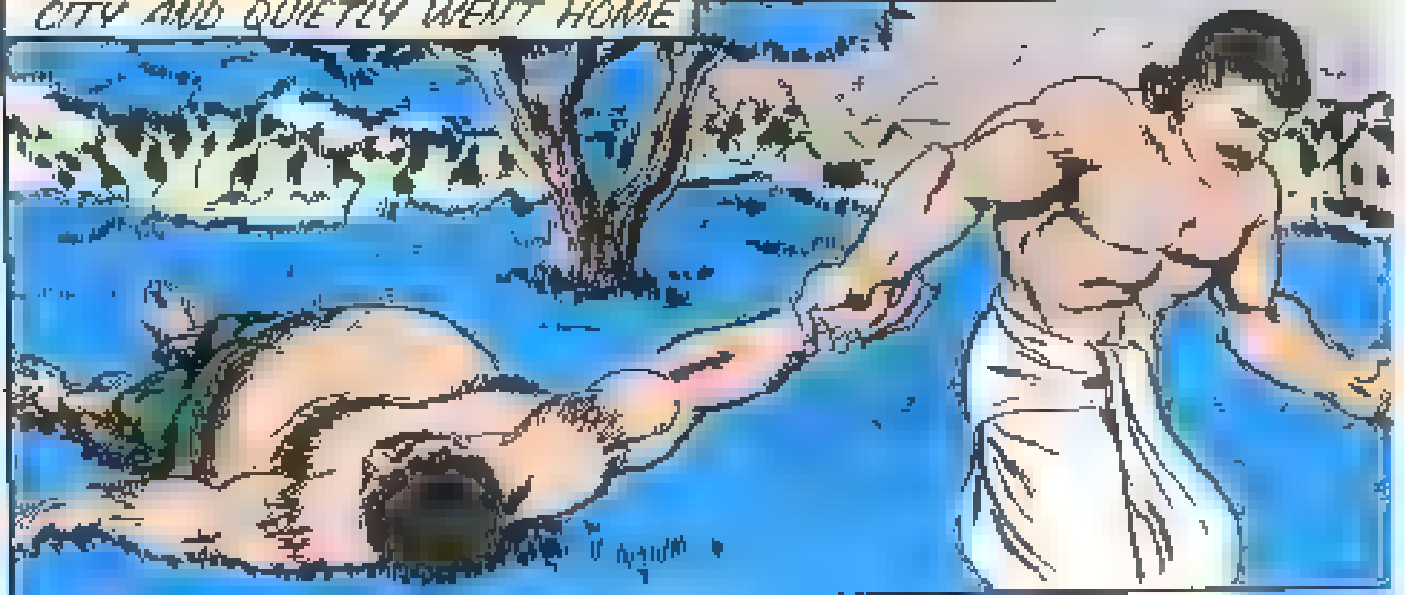
WHEN BAKASURA CAME OUT OF THE CAVE,  
HE WAS ENRAGED AT WHAT HE SAW



IT SEEMS  
AS IF SOME  
NUTS ARE  
FALLING  
ON MY  
BACK

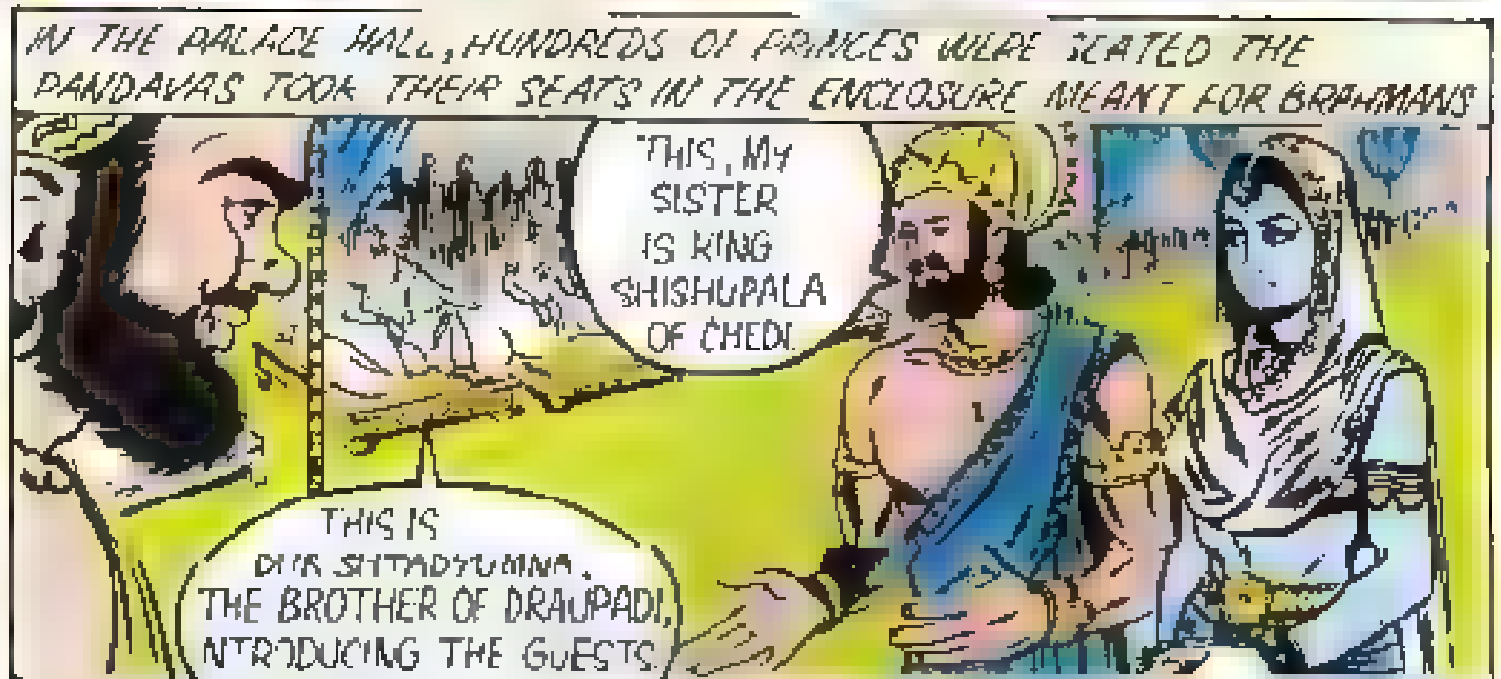
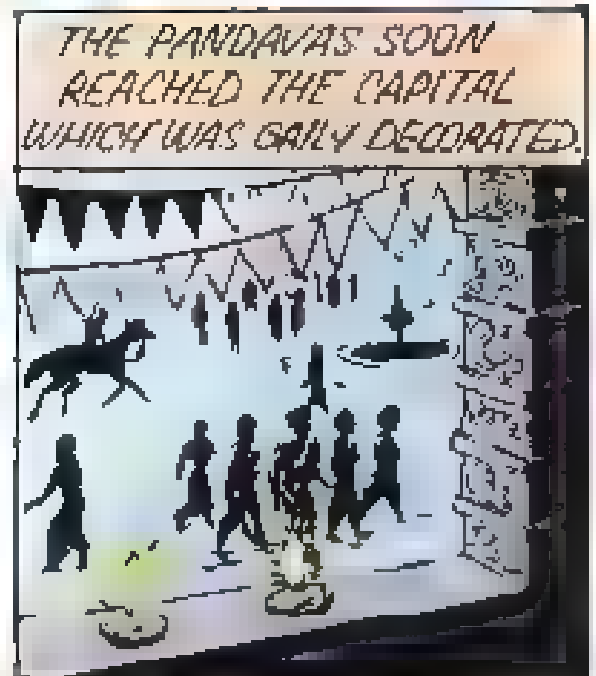


BHEEMA DRAGGED THE DEAD BODY OF THE GIANT TO THE GATE OF THE CITY AND QUIETLY WENT HOME



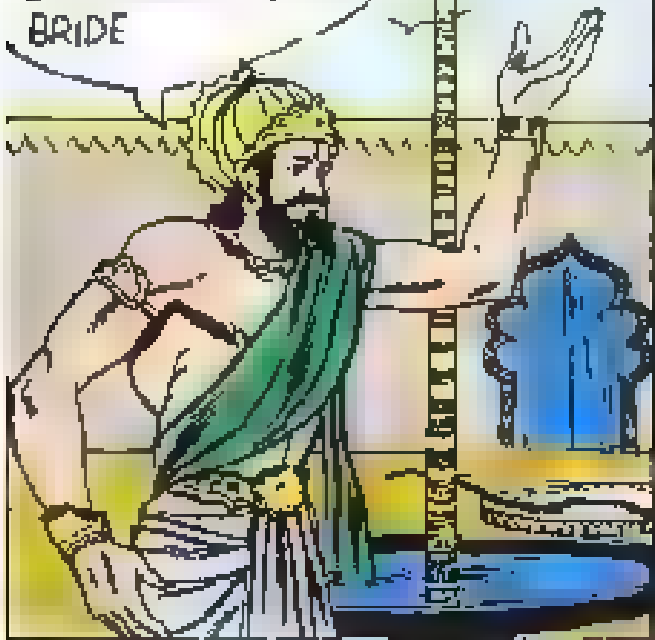


A FEW DAYS LATER THE PANDAVAS HEARD EXCITING NEWS -



THE INTRODUCTIONS OVER,  
DHARISTADYUNNA ANNOUNCED—

FRIENDS! HERE ARE  
A BOW AND ARROWS  
AND THERE, ABOVE THE  
REVOLVING WHEEL IS  
THE TARGET—A FISH.  
YOU HAVE TO HIT THE  
EYE OF THE FISH,  
LOOKING AT ITS  
REFLECTION IN THE  
WATER BELOW WHO  
EVER DOES THIS FIVE  
TIMES IN SUCCESS ON,  
SHALL WIN THE  
BRIDE

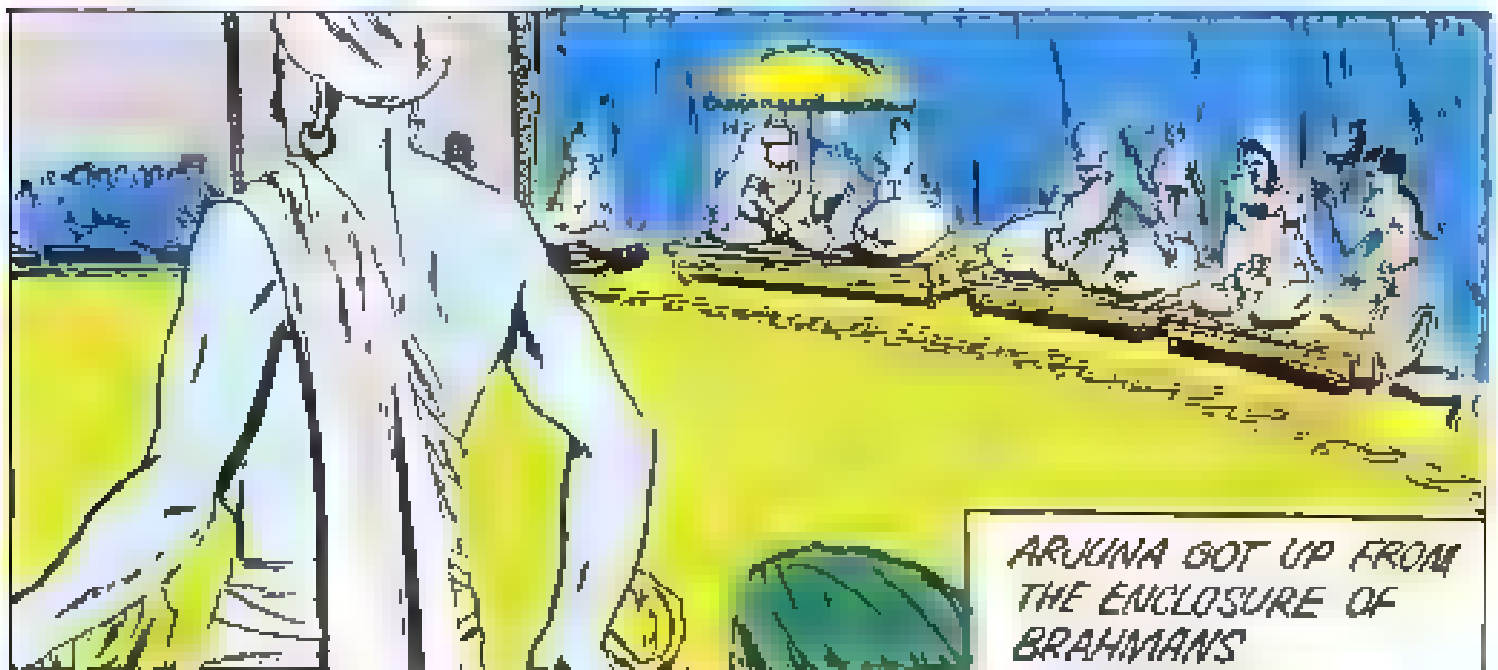


THE  
PRINCES  
TRIED  
ONE  
AFTER  
ANOTHER  
BUT  
NONE  
COULD  
LIFT  
THE  
HEAVY BOW.

THIS IS NO  
BOWING  
MAN CAN  
WIN THE  
TEST.



DURYODHANA FELL TO THE GROUND  
WHEN HE TRIED TO LIFT THE BOW LORD  
KRISHNA LOOKED MEANINGFULLY AT  
ARJUNA, HIS COUSIN.



ARJUNA GOT UP FROM  
THE ENCLOSURE OF  
BRAHMAN'S

WITH THE PERMISSION OF JIMBHADRYUMNA, HE LIFTED THE BOW, STRINGING IT AND SENT FIVE ARROWS IN QUICK SUCCESSION

EVERY ARROW OF HIS HAS HIT THE TARGET.

FANTASTIC!



DRACUDADI CAPTAINED HIM



THERE WAS AN UPROAR IN THE HALL  
D. RYLDHANAI WE SHOULD  
NOT TOLERATE THIS!

YES  
SHISHUPALA.  
IT IS A  
DISGRACE  
TO US  
ALL.



MANY OF THE PRINCES RUSHED TO THE DAIS. BHEEMA CAME TO HELP ARJUNA

IF ANYONE COMES ONE STEP FURTHER,  
I WILL SMASH HIS SKULL



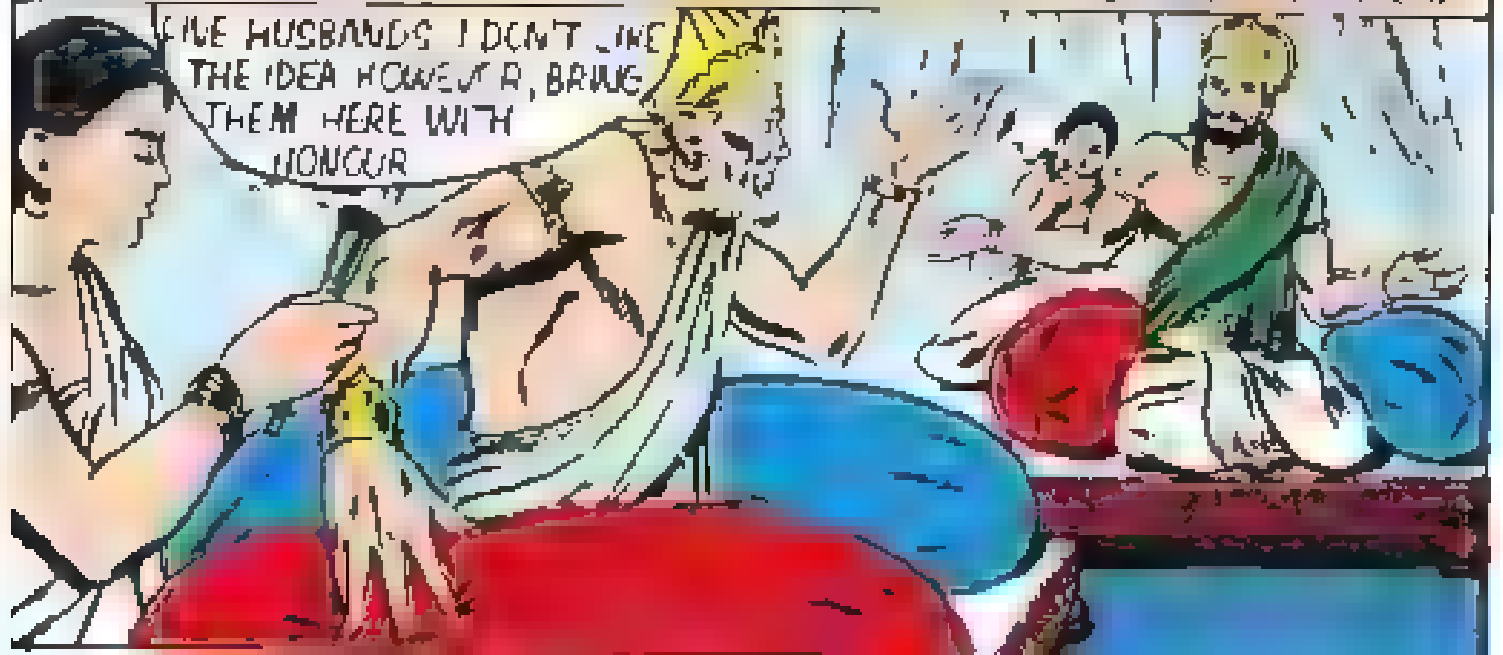
IN THE CONFUSION THAT FOLLOWED ARJUNA AND HIS BROTHERS WITH THE NEWLY-  
WON BRIDE, LEFT FOR EKACHAKRADIGRA KING JANAKA, HOWEVER, WAS WORRIED



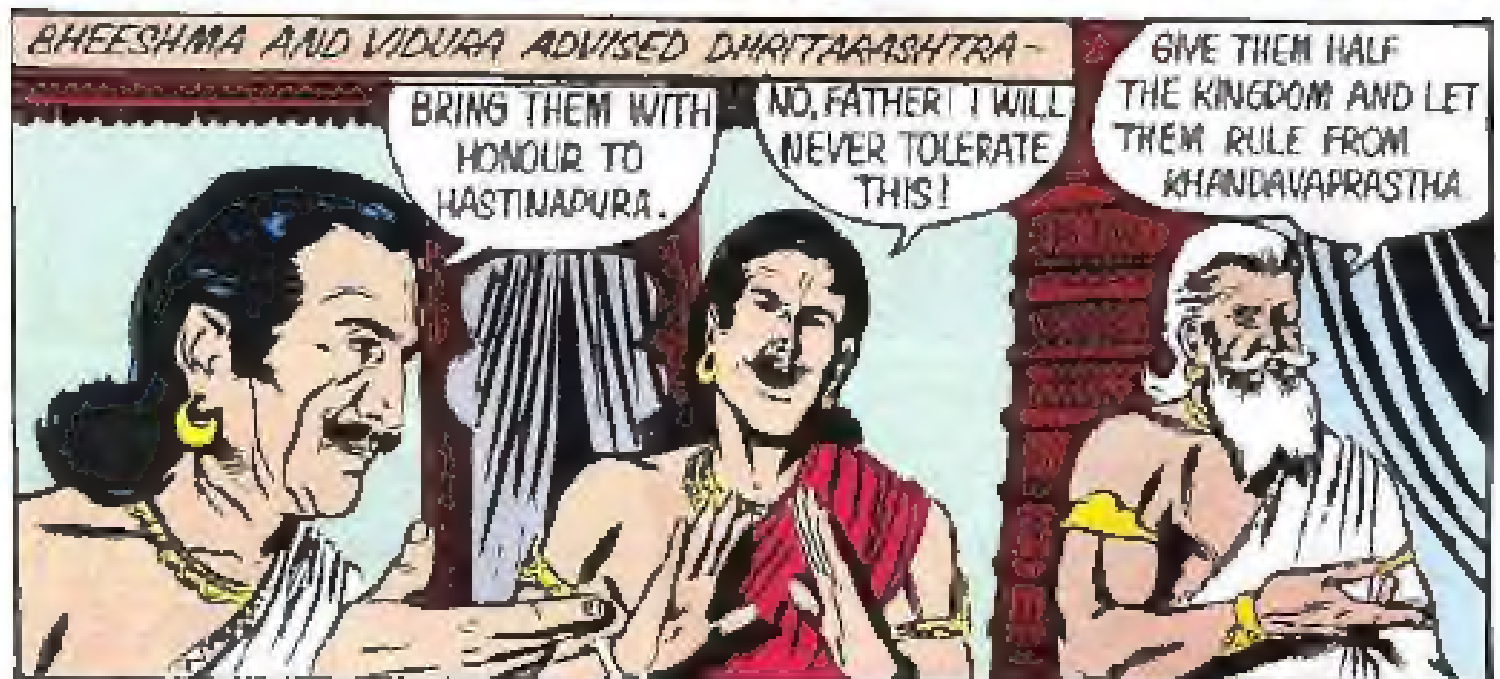
ARJUNA WAS EAGER TO BRING THE NEWS TO HIS MOTHER.



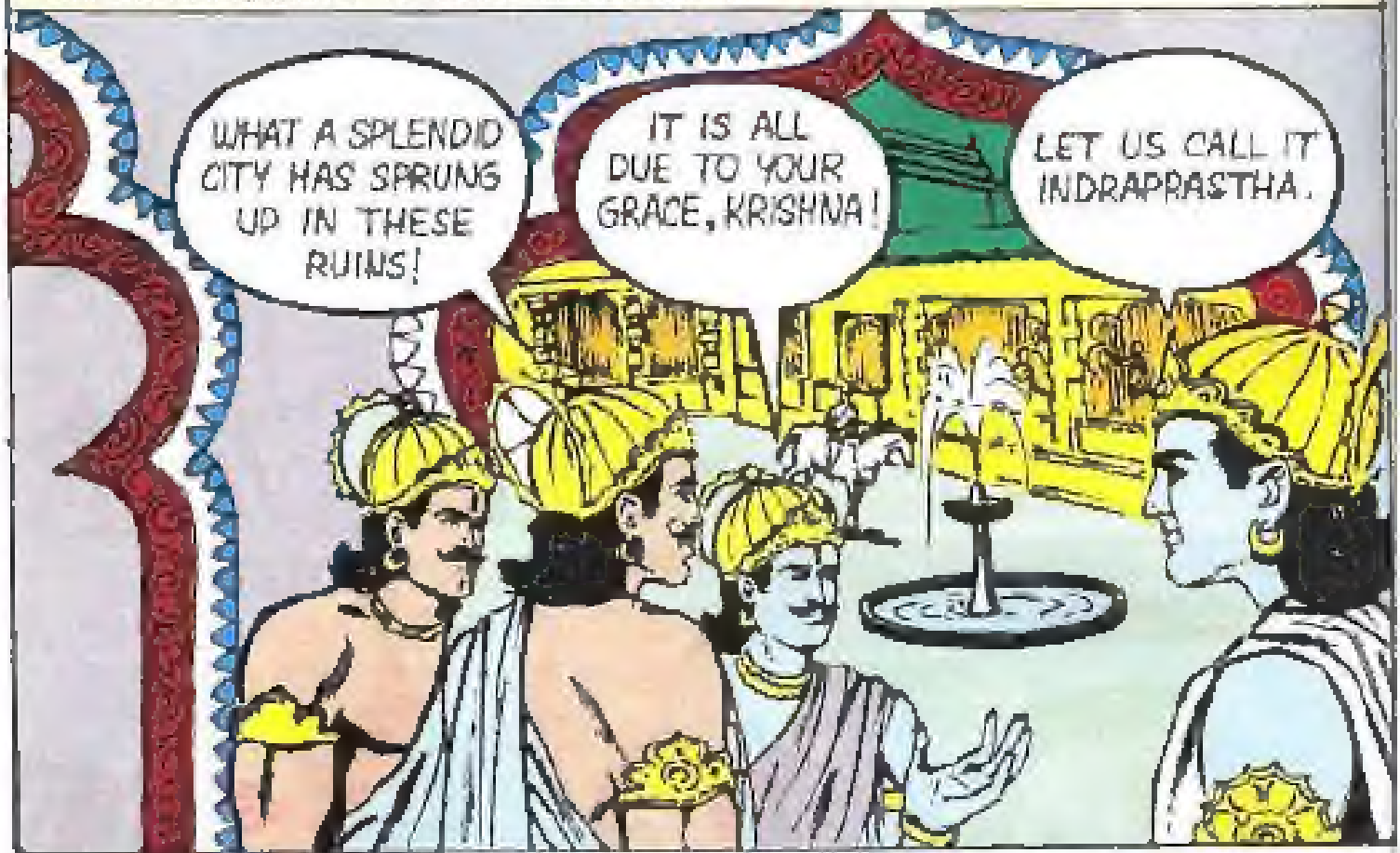
DHRISTADYUMNA TOLD HIS FATHER ALL THAT HE SAW IN EKACHAKRADIGRA







A FEW DAYS AFTER THEIR TRIUMPHANT RETURN, THE PANDAVAS LEFT FOR KHAUDAPRASTHA TO BUILD A NEW CITY.



WHAT A SPLENDID CITY HAS SPRUNG UP IN THESE RUINS!

IT IS ALL DUE TO YOUR GRACE, KRISHNA!

LET US CALL IT INDRAPRASTHA.

THEY RULED FROM INDRAPRASTHA FOR MANY YEARS. LORD KRISHNA WAS THEIR FRIEND AND ADVISER. ONE DAY—



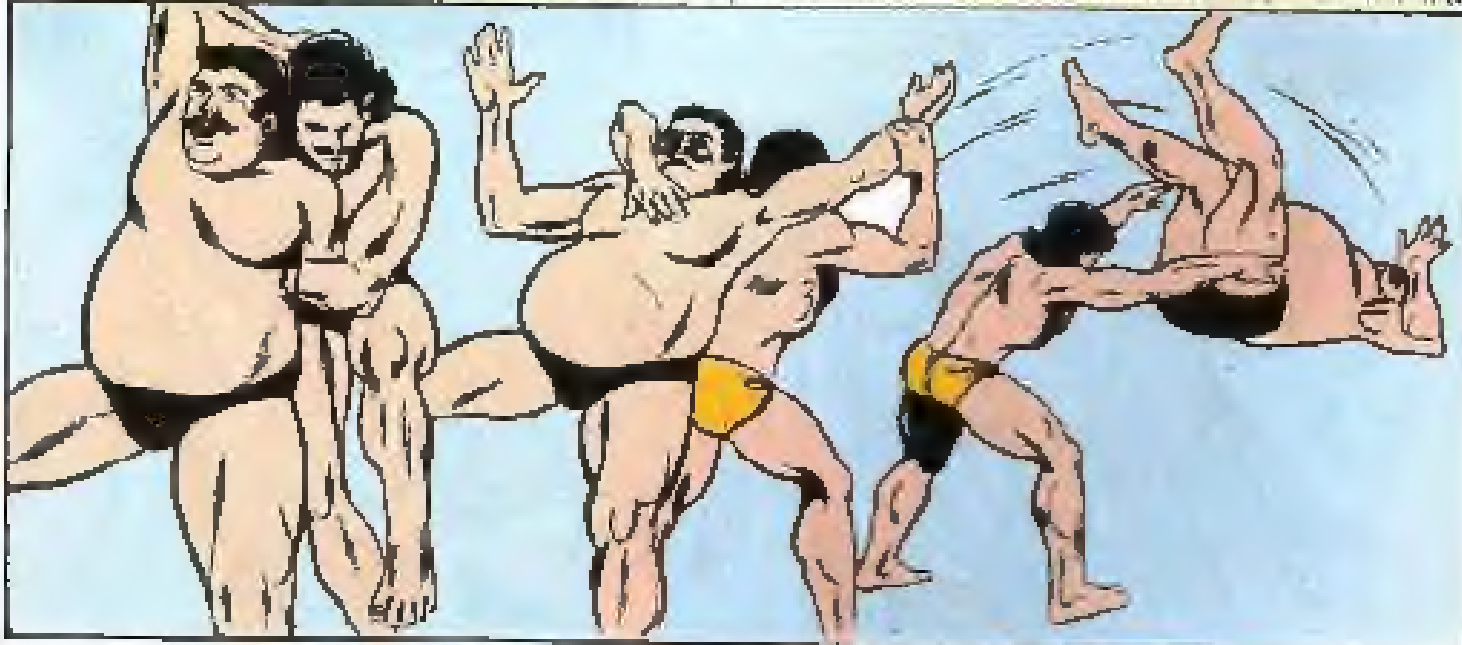
LORD KRISHNA, OUR ELDER BROTHER DOES NOT AGREE THAT WE SHOULD PERFORM THE RAJASUYA SACRIFICE.

BUT ARJUNA, WE CAN'T PERFORM THE RAJASUYA UNLESS I AM ACKNOWLEDGED THE LEADER BY ALL OTHERS.

WE WILL MAKE THEM ACKNOWLEDGE YOU.



IN THE FIERCE FIGHT THAT FOLLOWED, JARASANDHA WAS KILLED BY BHEEMA.





BHEEMA RETURNED IN TRIUMPH TO INDRAPRASTHA. KINGS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY GATHERED TO ATTEND THE RAJASUYA SACRIFICE BUT-



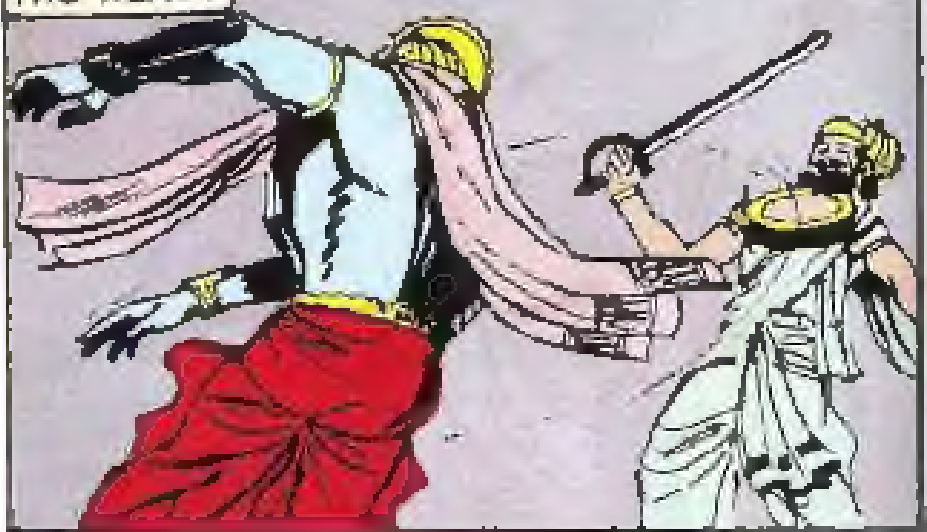
LORD KRISHNA! THE FIRST HONOUR ON THIS OCCASION SHOULD GO TO YOU.

I OBJECT TO KRISHNA GETTING THE PLACE OF HONOUR.



DO SO SHISHUPALA! BUT NOT WITH YOUR SWORD.

AS SHISHUPALA MADE AN ASSAULT ON KRISHNA, THE DISCUS OF KRISHNA CUT OFF HIS HEAD.



AND THE RAJASUYA WAS COMPLETED WHICH MADE THE PANDAVAS SUPREME IN THE COUNTRY. VICTORY TO



VICTORY TO KRISHNA!

YUDHISHTHIRA!